



Dominguez Channel Watershed Advisory Council (DCWAC)

Chair: County of Los Angeles DPW - *Dave Rydman*

Co-Chair: City of Torrance - *Wendell Johnson*

Outline of Monthly Meeting

Date: October 10, 2001

Time: 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Location: City of Carson

Attendees: (on sign-in list)

Ken Hudson, ExxonMobil	Tony Rizk, LARWQCB	Steve Mallon, Phillips 66
Travis Hopkins, Carson	Rick Cameron, Port of LB	Mas Dojiri, City of LA
John Hunter, JLHA/Hawthorne	Shirley Birosik, LARWQCB	Andrew Jirik, Port of LA
Gerald McGowen, City of LA	Rick Harter, LA/SG Rivers WC	Tim Hampton, City of Lawndale
Jess Morton, PV Audubon	Roy Marroquin, EEC	Massoud Ghiam, Carson
Luz Torres, Caltrans	John Embick, Phillips 66	Ray Yeghyayan, City of Inglewood
Roger Collins, Fluid Systems	Anne Kochaon, Parsons	Tim Hayes, City of LA Rec and Parks
Virginia Bleich, Ultramar	Wade Major, Komex	John Popoch, City of LA Rec and Parks
Mike Wang, WSPA	Neil Norcross, BP	Wendell Johnson, City of Torrance
Dave Rydman, LACDPW	Heather Lamberson, LACSD	Linda Chilton, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
Don May, California Earth Corps		

- I. Approve minutes from 9/5/01 meeting.
 - A. Concern over conditions of SCCWRP to take on this project.
 1. Will adjust wording in the September minutes to reflect all SCCWRP's requests
 - B. Clarify who is referred to as John in the minutes. There were 2 Johns present at the meeting.
- II. Reports from committees
 - A. Outline Committee – Dave Rydman gave report
 1. Scope of Work for RFP approved on 10/9/01.
 2. RFP should be completed and ready to be mailed within a week.
 3. Money from State Board to complete the Master Plan is in the process of being secured. This proposal was given the highest priority because it was the first one submitted to both the Regional Board and the State Board.
 4. Start date/money secured from State by February 1, 2002.
 - B. TMDL Committee – John Hunter gave report
 1. Met with SCCWRP (on October 3) to lay out scope of work for the water quality characterization study.
 - a. Wet weather phase
 1. Monitor additional 20 landuses in Dominguez Watershed and combine with SCCWRPs studies in the LA River and SM Bay.
 2. Multiple samples for each storm (~5 samples/storm for 4-5 events)
 3. The estimated cost - \$400k – sampling and \$200k for model
 - b. Sampling for metals, ammonia, pesticides, bacteria
 - c. Dry weather phase

1. Plan to walk channel and sample all outlets with visible flow.
 2. Build a dry weather model.
- d. The committee had decided to ask for the harbors to be included in the study. However, at the meeting, there was confusion as to whether the harbors would be included in this study. The Regional Board's preliminary assessment indicates that high bacterial levels in the Dominguez Channel are not likely to be associated with high levels in the Harbor (i.e. Cabrillo Beach). As such, the coliform study for the Channel Proper and the Harbor will be de-coupled with the Harbor study being conducted at a later time. However, for metals and ammonia there may be a strong connection between the harbor and the channel. John Bishop was not sure which TMDL would be watershed based and which would be site specific to the channel and the harbor separately
 - e. There are many extensive and on-going studies in the harbor. Steve Weisberg is unfamiliar with these studies so his calculations were based on the channel only. This does not preclude looking at the harbors later on as the program is more defined.
 - f. Overall cost for both wet and dry weather studies of the channel alone would be in the neighborhood of \$1-1.5 million dollars.
 - g. SCCWRP stated they would be the contract officer for this project and may sub contract out some of the work. SCCWRP mentioned that stakeholders may contribute in-kind services because it will make their job much easier
 - h. In order to get the wet weather sampling started this season, they would need an answer by October 10 on whether the funding was committed/available.
- C. Status of Funding/Funding Committee Report – John Hunter and Rick Harter gave report
1. There is strong desire for all to contribute, but no firm commitments had been made yet.
 2. There may need to be pressure from the private industry dischargers, county and Regional Board directed to the cities at the city manager level to participate in this water quality characterization study that will be used to help designate TMDLs among other things. The city managers need to see the value of this study so they are not asking “why am I supplying the bullets?” Many of the cities’ livelihoods are dependent upon what the final outcome of the TMDLs will be.
 3. Decision made to ask SCCWRP for more time to secure funding commitments.
 - a. We are just giving SCCWRP less and less time to set up and do the study

III. Updates from Regional Board

- A. \$100,000 secured by the Regional Board from DPR (pesticide regulation) to perform an atmospheric deposition study in the Dominguez Channel watershed. SCCWRP will be performing the work. There can be synergy by addressing other constituents in this study (metals).

- B. RB applied for 104 (b) grant from USEPA. Awarded 250k total for 2 studies, the Dominguez Channel is one of them. Given anywhere from 50-250k for this study depending on the seriousness of the stakeholders. This money is waiting to be given.
 - C. Last week the 4 refineries in the watershed requested of the NPDES section (of the Regional Board) to coordinate the receiving water monitoring program as part of their compliance schedule to assist the TMDL program. There has been a commitment to create a monitoring program for receiving waters that will help in the area of TMDL development. The Regional Board will not require from the refineries anything above what is reasonable for their requirements. However there is an opportunity for other dischargers (cities, county and others) to come on board and benefit from the synergy and come up with ways to coordinate with refineries a monitoring program that meets multiple needs. If done correctly, this effort could in essence be the TMDL monitoring program. If you require additional info about this sampling program you can contact Tony Rizk or Ken Hudson. The workplan for this study must be completed for the NPDES permit by February 2002. Regional Board will support coordinated monitoring programs between NPDES dischargers, but the requests have to be made to do so from the dischargers.
 - D. Tony stated the ecological importance of Dominguez Channel is only from the tidal prism at Vermont to the Harbors.
 - E. Section 13-267 of water code says the Board has the right to require an entity, discharger or facility to collect data/monitor if the Board has reason to suspect the source is contributing to impairment.
- IV. Requests for the Technical Committee
- A. Summary of Alameda Corridor (ACTA) water quality study (how Dominguez Channel and the harbors interact). Present to SCCWRP and those interested. To be scheduled
 - B. Define official boundary of the watershed
 - C. Inventory of NPDES dischargers to the harbor (specifically for the funding committee).
 - D. Summary of the actions of the Contaminated Sediment Task Force (water quality and watershed information).
- V. Del Amo Boulevard construction update from Carson – Massoud Ghiam gave report
- A. Cleaning up algae with 15 member crew and treating it as a contaminated material
 - B. Monitoring water quality levels around the construction site
 - C. Making sure algae is not reaching the ocean
 - D. Will set up 3 sediment traps to ensure no sediment is carried down the channel when the diversion is removed.
 - E. Construction of the bridge is still on schedule
- VI. Deliverables by next meeting
- A. Draft workplan for the Water Quality Characterization Study from SCCWRP (notes from the SCCWRP meeting are available from Mas in the meantime).

- B. Proposal for Technical committee to prepare a proposal for integrating map of watershed indicating watershed boundary, drains, (what will SCCWRP need in the form of maps)
- C. Begin focusing on other issues in watershed management. Email issues, goals, problems, concerns for the watershed to Dave.

VII. Next Meeting

- A. November 7, 2001 1:30-3:30pm